

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

AUGUST 4, 2020

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 330 North Main Suite 200 Rushville Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

PRAYER: Councilman Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Bob Bridges, Brad Berkemeier, Elton Marzon, Mike Daubenspeck, and Aaron Gurley answered roll call. Also present was City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse.

Minutes - Berkemeier moved to approve the minutes of the July 21st meeting as presented. Daubenspeck seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Pavey gave the following report:

1. He has started the budget review process with the Department Heads.
2. We had the pre-bid meeting today for phase I of The Boulders.
3. The Rush County Community Foundation is waiting to see if they will get approval for the grant for a community center. They continue to have meetings while waiting on approval.
4. The Department Heads have attended a leadership program given by Gary Munchel.
5. We have also met with HWC to discuss the Stellar Overlook Project and the comprehensive plan.
6. HWC will begin the audit process tomorrow with the Utilities.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Clerk-Treasurer Copley reported that she had to change the date of the budget workshop with the DLGF. It is now going to be August 17 at 3:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Councilman Berkemeier said he was able to attend a budget session and encouraged other Council members to do likewise if possible. Berkemeier said this gave him a better understanding of their operations. He said he thought it would be helpful to have a workshop for Council. Pavey said we will schedule something after the 17th.

Berkemeier also urged Council to push citizens to use the Comcate system so we can better track issues of concern.

He said he has been reviewing the wage survey from AIM. He will send a copy to Council.

Berkemeier spoke with Linda Haler. She has a family member that is a veteran. She wants to get involved with veterans and Rushville and was hoping to make some connections.

Council President Berkemeier said tomorrow is the 1st day of school and he hopes this will be a good school year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Stellar Designation** - Pavey said we hope to wrap up the projects by the end of the year.
- **Amphitheater/Park Board** - We are waiting to see what the Governor says about Covid to decide what we will do concerning Rush Fest.
- **APC/BZA** - Nothing to report.
- **Housing** - Pavey said if anyone has any questions about the housing he has a graphic that explains the project.
- **ECDC** - Project Local is on hold.
- **Cherry Street** - We are waiting on the court decision. It was scheduled for May.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Street – Commissioner Miller said they have put up the signs at 3rd and Morgan. They will be helping the park department install the new fitness equipment.

Police – Chief Tucker reported that Officer Claycomb has begun classes at the Indiana Police Academy.

They have picked up their new vehicle.

They have decided there is not good cause at this time to put in a stop sign at 10th and Maple.

Flood Pre-Disaster Grant – The State has moved us up to the next round for the grant. We are hoping it will be funded by the end of the year.

Park – Director Burklow said they have begun installing the fitness equipment at South Memorial Park.

Code – We will be seeing a resolution naming the street east of 4th Street just off of 5th Street. He has received a complaint because this area that covers about 3 houses is not marked and they have difficulty getting deliveries.

Fire – Chief Munson said the Board of Works moved part-time paramedic, Jim Wolfe, to full time beginning August 2.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Rushville Property Revitalization Program** – We are waiting on the interested parties to ask to move forward.

2. **City of Rushville Public Giving and Community Improvement Corporation Appointments to Board of Directors** – Pavey is contacting potential board members.
3. **Diversity and Inclusion Council** – Councilman Marzon is reaching out to begin putting together a council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Utility Update Dave Harvey- Water Solution Unlimited** – Due to the challenges with our water system, Dave Harvey, from Water Solution Unlimited was present to discuss out issues. We have received 74 complaints through the Comcate System.

Harvey said he is the co-owner of Water Solution Unlimited and they have helped 800 municipalities in 8 states.

Harvey said the dirty water is caused by manganese. It is a natural mineral and is not harmful. We have started feeding sodium permanganate into the treatment plant in order to clear the water. We are testing on a daily basis. At the first testing the level was 0.13, after the first day it was down to 0.81. We have to make adjustments slowly so we don't cause more issues. This will slowly clean the deposits in the lines.

Harvey said after cleaning we need to put out a notice for the residents to flush their systems 2 days after the City flushes their system. Harvey said it is not a requirement to test for manganese.

Bridges asked what was the color of manganese. Harvey said it is black to tea color.

Berkemeier asked if the Utility has a capital improvement plan. Les Day said yes they do.

The employees are being trained on the proper use of treating the manganese.

2. **Commerce Park Road Names** – Newhouse will check on this he thought we took care of it.
3. **Code Enforcement – Abandon Vehicles, Trailers, Derby Cars** – Mayor Pavey said this has become a hot topic. It was addressed and then has come back up. Jenkins, Tucker, and Clark will get together and address these items.
4. **Alisa Winters – RCCF** - Alisa Winters, Director of the Rush County Community Foundation updated Council on the proposed Community Center. She said the Lilly Endowment has been very helpful. On March 13 we submitted for the grant. The grant is for 5 million dollars. They were one of 17 chosen from 49 communities to move forward to funding. In a recent survey 90% of people wanted a community center. This

community center would help us to create partnerships. It also gives us an opportunity to find constructive use for the old Wal-Mart building. Winters showed the site plan. There would be more space added than is already there. It would give us a well-rounded place for our community, but we also need support from the community. If awarded the grant we expect that Phase I would begin in 2021 with the project being completed in 5 years. We are currently meeting individually with stakeholders. Mayor Pavey said if Council would consider partnering in this endeavor that we will together a resolution stating our proposed commitment.

5. **Covid-19 Health Task Force** – The Governor has delayed the 4.5 level until August 27th. We will go ahead and prepare with the baseball lease for next year.

CLAIMS APPROVAL: Marzon moved to approve the claims as presented. Daubenspeck seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: None.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before Council; Daubenspeck moved to adjourn. Berkemeier seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.